

ADVISORY BOARD ON TEACHER EDUCATION AND LICENSURE (ABTEL) MEETING

MINUTES

Meeting Date and Location: September 17, 2007
Holiday Inn Select - Koger Center
Richmond, Virginia

ABTEL Members Present:

Jeffrey Arco	Dr. Betty Hobbs	Angela S. Turley
Rene Massey Ashjian	Linda Kelly	Rena' White
Cynthia D. Baird	Mary Kolman	Ann Y. Williams
Diane Bialkowski	Valerie C. Porter	Dr. Philip L. Worrell
Dr. Nancy M. Davenport	Dawn Rees-Blakeman	
Dr. William H. Graves, III	Susan K. Shoap	
Dr. Carole C. Grove	Gloria Talbott	

Board of Education Liaison: Dr. Ella P. Ward

Ex-Officio Member: Dr. Gary Krapf
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Bill Hightower for Dr. Susan Wood
Virginia Community College System

Patty S. Pitts
Virginia Department of Education

Department of Education Staff: Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver
Dr. James Lanham

Guests: Dr. Spencer Baker, Hampton University
Jean Bankos, Office of the Governor
Nancy Beach, Ferrum College
Dr. Charitta D. Danley, Hampton University
Tracey Dingus, Bristol City Public Schools
Dr. Cassandra Herring, Hampton University
Betty Lambdin, Virginia Education
Association
Virginia Seale, Ferrum College
Beth Smith, Education Testing Service

ORIENTATION FOR NEW ABTEL MEMBERS

Dr. JoAnne Carver, director of teacher education, and Dr. James Lanham, director of licensure, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, conducted the orientation session for new ABTEL members. The following new members participated in the session: Valerie C. Porter; Angela S. Turley; and Dr. Philip L. Worrell.

FULL BOARD CONVENES

- **Opening Remarks and Welcome**

Linda Kelly, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed members and guests.

- **Introduction of New Members and Guests**

Linda Kelly introduced new ABTEL members. The full Advisory Board introduced themselves. Linda Kelly acknowledged guests to the Advisory Board.

- **Approval of Agenda**

Mary Kolman made a motion to change the agenda to allow Dr. Cannaday to present during the morning session, prior to Public Comment. Rena' White seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Approval of Minutes**

Gloria Talbott made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2007, Advisory Board meeting. Dr. Betty Hobbs seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION TO THE FULL BOARD

Dialogue with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Dr. Billy K. Cannaday, Jr., state superintendent of public instruction, joined the Advisory Board in a conversation regarding key issues for consideration over the next year. He cited the areas of teacher retention, recruitment, and preparation; leadership and licensure; and issues of efficiency (i.e., How will we determine strategies used to resolve these issues are making a difference with children?) as primary areas needing attention. Dr. Cannaday encouraged members of the Advisory Board to seek ways to advise the Board of Education on how to address these and other pertinent issues.

- **Public Comment**

No individuals requested to speak during the public comment period.

- **Election of Officers: Chair and Vice-Chair**

Dr. Nancy Davenport, vice-chair of the Advisory Board, presided over the election of the chair of the Advisory Board.

Cynthia Baird made a motion to nominate Linda Kelly as chair of the Advisory Board. Mary Kolman seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Linda Kelly presided over the remainder of the proceedings for the election of officers.

Rena' White made a motion to nominate Dr. Nancy Davenport as vice chair of the Advisory Board. Dr. Betty Hobbs seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Election of a Member-at-Large to Serve on the Executive Committee**

Mary Kolman made a motion to nominate Gloria Talbot to serve as member-at-large on the executive committee of the Advisory Board. Dr. Nancy Davenport seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Appointment of Chairs to the Teacher Education Committee and the Professional Licensure Committee**

Linda Kelly appointed Dr. William H. Graves as chair of the Teacher Education Committee and Jeffrey Arco as chair of the Professional Licensure Committee.

- **Committee Assignments for 2007-2008**

Committee assignments were made for the year.

Linda Kelly appointed the following mentors for new members:

- Jeffrey Arco – Diane Bialkowski
- Dr. Betty Hobbs – Dr. Philip Worrell
- Mary Kolman – Angela Turley
- Cynthia Baird – Valerie Porter

Patty Pitts announced that the vacancy on the Advisory Board was due to the resignation of Robin Smith. A new name will be submitted to the Board of Education for approval.

- **Review and Approval of 2007-2008 Meeting Dates:**

September 17, 2007
November 19, 2007
January 14, 2008
March 17, 2008
April 21, 2008

Gloria Talbot made a motion to approve the meeting dates as presented. Dr. Betty Hobbs seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE FULL BOARD CONTINUED

Status of Licensure and Approved Program Regulations

Patty S. Pitts, assistant superintendent, Division of Teacher Education and licensure, commended Advisory Board members for their work over the past several years on the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8VAC20-542-10 et seq.) and the *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel* (8VAC20-22-10 et seq.). Mrs. Pitts further reported that it is anticipated that both sets of regulations will become effective on September 21, 2007. She stated that the Board of Education was very complimentary of ABTEL's work and recommendations regarding the regulations. Dr. Ella Ward thanked the Advisory Board for their leadership.

Oral Language Proficiency of Pre-service Foreign Language Teachers

Patty Pitts reported that a survey to assess the proficiency of aspiring teachers of foreign language was sent to institutions of higher education in response to concerns from a member of the Board of Education and others. The survey, developed by ABTEL's Teacher Education Committee, is due to the Department of Education on Friday, October 12, 2007. Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver, director of teacher education, summarized the components of the electronic survey. Results of the survey will be shared with the Advisory Board.

Dr. James Lanham, director of licensure, provided an update from Educational Testing Services regarding foreign language replacement Praxis II assessments in German, Spanish, and French. Listening and speaking components will be included in the assessments. Standard setting is anticipated to occur for all three assessments in late spring of 2008, with implementation to occur either in fall 2008 or spring 2009.

Dr. William Graves suggested all teacher education programs to be informed in writing of new assessments as soon as possible in order to adjust curriculum. Dr. Bill Graves and Dr. Ella Ward agreed that a transition period to allow time for these changes is needed.

Report on Advancing Virginia's Leadership Agenda

Patty Pitts reported on the request for proposals disseminated to Virginia public institutions of higher education with approved programs in administration and supervision. Institutions may apply for awards up to \$100,000 to cover the period October 2007 to May 2008. Advisory Board member Rene Ashjian suggested that businesses may want to be involved in this initiative. Patty Pitts stated that members of the Commonwealth's Education Roundtable will review the work products of this initiative.

The School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA)

Dr. James Lanham, director of professional licensure, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, reported on the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA). He stated that Dr. Thomas Shortt, executive director, Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals, and Dr. Carol Cash, former principal of Hanover High School, Hanover County public schools, served on the national SLLA review panel. Dr. Lanham indicated that the new version of the SLLA is anticipated to be a shorter, computer delivered assessment that provides more meaningful data and an online scoring component. A new standard-setting study will be required. The SLLA currently is used in 17 different states.

Dr. William Graves expressed a concern that the SLLA scoring procedures provided no standard for grammar.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Teacher Education Committee and the Professional Licensure Committee met from 10:45 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

LUNCH

Members of the Advisory Board convened for a working lunch.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

Teacher Education Committee

Dr. William Graves presented the report and recommendations of the Teacher Education Committee.

Agenda Item 1: Review and Approval of a Recommendation Regarding the Teacher Education Program at Ferrum College.

Dr. William Graves made a motion that the teacher education program at Ferrum College be granted continuing accreditation. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 2: Review of a Recommendation for Approval of an Additional Endorsement Program in Administration and Supervision preK-12 at Hampton University.

Dr. William Graves made a motion that program approval be granted to Hampton University for the Administration and Supervision preK-12 endorsement. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda item 3: Discussion of 2007-08 Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure Initiatives -- Teacher Education Committee

Dr. William Graves reported the Teacher Education Committee will address the following initiatives for 2007-2008:

- Manual of *Procedures for Meeting Requirements of the Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* draft to be reviewed by the Teacher Education Committee at the November 19, 2007, Advisory Board meeting;
- Impact of the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8VAC20-542-10 et seq.);
- State Partnership Agreements with the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC);
- 2007-2008 Critical Teaching Shortage Areas;
- Issues of Supply and Demand;
- Pre-service Preparation of Highly Qualified Special Education Teachers and Those Holding Provisional (Conditional) Licenses;
- School Leaders Preparation Programs;
- Speech-Language Pathology and Counseling Competencies and Their Integration into Program Curriculum; and
- VITAL (formerly TEAL II) Comprehensive Data System.

Professional Licensure Committee

Jeffrey Arco presented the report from the Professional Licensure Committee.

Agenda Item 1: Report on the Implementation of *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel* (8VAC20-22-10 et seq.).

The Professional Licensure Committee received information on American Sign Language endorsement and dates school divisions received licensure information. At its October 18, 2007, meeting, the Board of Education will review the Sign Communication Proficiency Interview (SCPI) as an option for demonstrating proficiency in American Sign Language based on ABTEL's November 20, 2006, recommendation.

Agenda Item 2: Discussion of the Use of a Praxis II Examination for Latin

The discussion regarding use of a Praxis II examination for Latin was tabled until the Department of Education can provide additional information regarding the current number of Virginia programs and the number of college students enrolled in the programs for Latin.

Agenda Item 3: Discussion of 2007-08 Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure Initiatives -- Professional Licensure Committee

Jeffrey Archer reported the Professional Licensure Committee will address the following initiatives for 2007-2008:

- Recruitment and Retention of Teachers in the Commonwealth; and
- Impact of *Licensure Regulations Governing School Personnel* (8VAC20-22-10 et seq.).

LIAISON REPORTS

The Virginia Community College System (VCCS)

Dr. Bill Hightower reported the following information on behalf of the Virginia Community College system:

1. The VCCS office continues to complete new system-wide guaranteed admission agreements and to revise system-wide teacher education programmatic articulation agreements with many of Virginia's four-year institutions. This will provide increased access through a transfer infrastructure beneficial to prospective teachers enrolled in Virginia's community colleges.
2. The VCCS Career Switcher Program will begin the year with a Fall Cohort of 35 candidates pursuing endorsement in mathematics, the sciences, middle grades (with concentration in mathematics or science), or foreign language. Another cohort will begin in January for these endorsement areas, as well as a cohort of switchers pursuing English as a Second Language endorsement. In addition, approximately 75 switchers who completed Level I last year are now teaching with eligibility licenses around the state.
3. The VCCS Career Switcher Program was recognized as one of ten community college awardees from across the nation to receive \$25,000 awards to target reentry of individuals in the 50+ age demographic into the workforce. These awards were made by the nonprofit organization Civic Ventures, with support from MetLife. Dr. Hightower thanked the Department of Education for its support as they developed the proposal for this award.

4. A project is underway to revise course content in the EDU 200: Introduction to Teaching as a Profession course to include an emphasis on assessment. This course provides an early field experience to prospective teachers in Virginia's community colleges.
5. VCCS staff will use the network of teacher educators at Virginia's community colleges through peer group structure to communicate the recent revisions to the licensure regulations.
6. Dr. Susan Wood, VCCS liaison to ABTEL, is serving as this year's president of the National Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs (NACCTEP).

State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)

Dr. Gary Krapf reported the following information regarding the work of SCHEV.

1. The 2007-2013 Strategic Plan for Higher Education in Virginia has been approved by the Secretary of Education. Three key areas emphasized in the plan are those of access, alignment, and investment.
2. The Strategic Plan for Higher Education mirrors Department of Education needs in the following areas: a) alignment of curriculum between high school and institutions of higher education; b) focus on high school drop-out rates through the GEAR-UP Program; and c) support of scholarships in critical shortage areas such as teaching and nursing.

Department of Education

Patty Pitts announced that the State Teacher of the Year banquet and awards ceremony would take place on October 26, 2007, at the Sheraton Park South Hotel in Richmond.

ADJOURNMENT

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.